

1 This proposal would mean that the county
2 elections would be the same as Baltimore City and we
3 feel that this is consistent with the Constitutional
4 provision in Local Government Section 7.01, which said
5 that "For the purposes of this Constitution county
6 shall include Baltimore City."

7 The feeling is that by separating, the real
8 issue or only issue here is that county elections would
9 now be separated, the major shall, as far as the committee
10 is concerned, is simply this. That separating county
11 elections so that county officials would run separately
12 would mean greater visibility in those elections.
13 Those elections would be indicative of a vote on local
14 issues and it separates the issues so that a candidate
15 is accepted or rejected on the basis of his position or
16 record on local issues.

17 We feel that while evidence has been established
18 that the turnout for local elections in Baltimore City
19 is lower than the election for the state or for the
20 President, we feel that this is not an indication of a
21 more informed electorate. We feel that by separating the